

# THE NEVADA CLEAN AIR BULLETIN

Department of Motor Vehicles

MANAGEMENT SERVICES  
AND  
PROGRAMS DIVISION

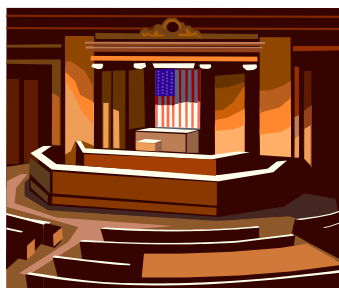


555 WRIGHT WAY

CARSON CITY NV 89711

## A NEVADA I/M PROGRAM INFORMATIONAL NEWSLETTER SECOND QUARTER 2003

**\*\*\*All emission certificates will increase to \$6.00, effective July 1, 2003. This increase is to help fund five other agencies including the Department of Motor Vehicles Emission Control Fund pursuant to NRS 445B.830.\*\*\***



### 72<sup>ND</sup> LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Several legislative bills introduced during the 72<sup>nd</sup> Legislative Session that could have impacted the Nevada motor

vehicle emission program. Below is a summary of these bills:

SENATE BILL 18: Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to establish to include in regulation the procedures for auditing emission stations.

SB18 passed.

SENATE BILL 189: Amends the registration-enforced emission program, requiring every other year emission inspections for vehicles 1996 and newer in counties with a population of 400,000 or more.

SB189 **FAILED**

SENATE BILL 419: Increases the emission certificate fee to \$7.00.

SB 419 **FAILED**

SENATE BILL 500 – Increases the emission certificate fee to \$6.00.

SB 500 passed

ASSEMBLY BILL 36: Amends the registration-enforced program, requiring a broader range of emission testing for non-gasoline powered vehicles up to 10,000 lbs GVWR.

AB36 passed.

ASSEMBLY BILL 416: Amends the registration-enforced emission program by requiring every other year emission inspections for all vehicles in counties with a population of 100,000 or more.

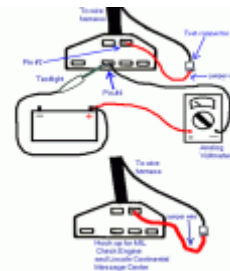
AB 416 **Failed**

For further information regarding the latest Legislative session, please go to:

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/>

### OBDII PASS/FAIL

The time has come for pass/fail only on OBDII tests, as the analyzers will no longer roll over to the Two Speed Idle test (TSI). The advisory period will soon be over.



Previously, since OBDII testing began, if a 1996 or newer vehicle failed the OBDII portion of the emission test, the analyzer would roll over to a two speed idle test.

Beginning July 1, 2003, a 1996 or newer vehicle must pass the OBDII test to be in compliance with Nevada's emission laws. There are many components that can fail on the new cars as well as the older cars. Unfortunately, some of these emission components that need replacing are very expensive. Before replacement of any of these components, check with your type of vehicles dealer to see if they may be covered under warranty. Most emission components on 1996 and newer vehicles are under warranty for 80,000 miles or 8 years, whichever comes first.

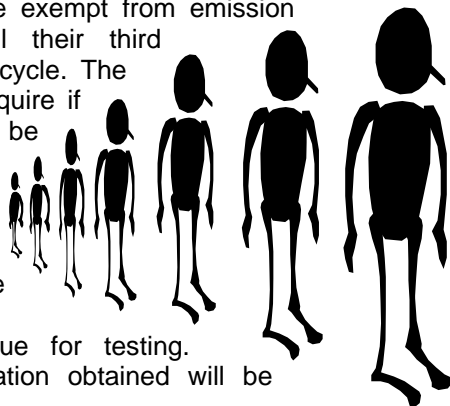
Some of these vehicles, even though they are newer, are gross polluters because they have not been properly maintained. Many people ignore the Malfunction Indicator Lamp on the dash when it is lit. This indicator is very important to your vehicle and your wallet. The longer this "Check Engine" lamp is on the more money it may cost to repair your vehicle.

This warning lamp could mean anything from a loose or missing gas cap to a malfunctioning catalytic converter or worse. When you see this light come on, head to your nearest mechanic one that is authorized and equipped to properly diagnose and repair your vehicle or to your nearest dealer. The longer you wait the more damage you may cause to your vehicle.

### **MORE HYBRID VEHICLES COMING!**

Ford Motor Company will be releasing a new hybrid vehicle in the near future. Ford will offer the hybrid option on their Escape model vehicle. The Escape's hybrid system will consist of a 2.0 liter, 4 cylinder, with a 300 volt battery pack. Performance is stated to rival six cylinder vehicles. The Escape hybrid will be available to fleets in late 2003 with release to consumers late summer 2004.

Nevada regulations will allow for the Escape hybrid to be exempt from emission testing until their third registration cycle. The DMV will inquire if there will be any emission testing variations before the vehicle becomes due for testing. Any information obtained will be



posted in upcoming bulletins.

Ford has an informative website regarding the Escape hybrid:

<http://www.fordvehicles.com/escapehybrid>

### **AUTOMAKER RECALLS 530,000 VEHICLES**

It has been reported that Volkswagen of America has implemented a program to replace ignition coils on 2001, 2002 and some early production 2003 model vehicles. Vehicle models affected are:

1.8 liter/turbo equipped Audi A4 and TT, VW Golf, Jetta, New Beetle and Passat

2.8 liter/VR6-equipped VW's

3.0 liter/V-6-equipped Audis

VW Passat W8



Customers that own any of the above vehicles can be directed to obtain more information by contacting:

VW Customer Relations at 800-822-8987, or

Audi Customer Relations at 800-822-2834.

*Source: Motor Trend magazine May 2003 issue*

### **NATIONAL AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TASK FORCE (NASTF)**

Obtaining the latest service information for today's high-tech vehicles has been one of the pressing issues within the vehicle service industry. NASTF was established in 2000 to facilitate:

- 1) The identification and correction of gaps in the availability and accessibility of OEM automotive service information
- 2) Technology training for automotive technicians
- 3) Availability of both OEM and generic Diagnostic tools and equipment
- 4) Communication outreach to automotive service professionals

NASTF announced at a Press Release in April 2003 that auto manufacturers are offering service information via the internet. There are currently 26 vehicle manufacturers participating.

If you are interested in finding out more, NASTF's website is: <http://www.nastf.org>

### **EMISSION REGISTRATION RENEWAL STATIONS WILL HAVE NEW CAPABILITIES**

Emission registration renewal stations will soon have the capability to renew a customer's registration through the analyzer. The stations will be capable of handling all transactions including cash, credit cards, checks, and debit cards.

The analyzer will have a direct link with the DMV computer system and will not include an electronic surcharge fee, as the link with MCI will be eliminated.

The stations that are approved to process registration renewal transactions will be allowed to charge up to \$10.00 per registration transaction.

The requirements to participate in the program are as follows:

- 1) The station must have a valid Nevada license as an approved authorized inspection station.
- 2) The station must have satisfactorily conducted business, as set forth in Nevada Revised Statutes and Administrative Codes.
- 3) The station must not have any insufficient funds check issued to the department
- 4) The owner of a station must not have been convicted of a Felony and must not have committed any Deceptive Trade Practices and/or Embezzlement.
- 5) The station must obtain a \$10,000.00 bond or Time Certificate
- 6) The station must employ two licensed inspectors.

- 7) The station must purchase a compatible credit card reader, if they wish to do credit card transactions. Stations should not purchase any equipment until the program is permanently in place and all questions have been answered.

Software installation and training will be provided at no cost to the station. The pilot program will begin later this year in Clark and Washoe County. Upon completion of the pilot program, the department will accept applications for participation in the program. Any station owner, interested in participating or has questions, may contact Al Nicholson, Program Officer, Emission Control Section, by phone at (775) 684-4841 or by e-mail at [anicholson@dmv.state.nv.us](mailto:anicholson@dmv.state.nv.us)

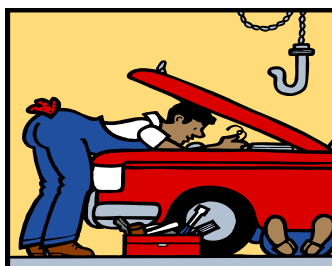
### **KEYLESS IGNITION SYSTEMS**

Starting with 2004 vehicle model years, some original equipment manufacturers (OEM) will begin installing "keyless ignition" systems in their vehicles.

Obviously, without having an ignition key to turn, it will not be possible to perform a Key On/Engine Off (KOEO) OBD MIL bulb test. One vehicle manufacturer is proposing to use a toggle switch in place of a key to perform the bulb check.

The proposed OEM vehicle keyless ignition system and the effect it will have on the MIL bulb check portion of the OBD test will be discussed at an upcoming OBD workgroup meeting. This workgroup membership includes representatives from vehicle manufacturers, selected state and federal government agencies (Nevada DMV is not a participant with this workgroup). A decision on how to address this issue will be determined by this workgroup.

This is another example of the ever-changing technology that is found in today's high tech vehicles. Nevada DMV will pass along any update information on the keyless ignition issue when it becomes available.



### **2G STATION LIST**

This is a friendly reminder to all authorized inspection (1G) station operators that they

are required to provide a list of authorized stations (2G) to customers, whose vehicle(s) failed an emissions test. This requirement can be found in Nevada Administrative Code 445B.5895.

If you need a list of authorized stations please contact your nearest DMV Emission Control office:

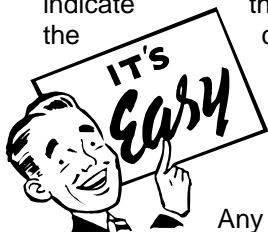
Washoe County (775) 684-3580  
Clark County (702) 486-4981

2G authorized station lists are also available on the DMV Emissions Webpage:  
<http://www.dmvnv.com/emission.htm>

### IS YOUR ADVERTISING IN COMPLIANCE?

The Nevada Administrative Code (NAC 445B.471) requires that all advertising published, displayed or circulated must be accurate. The advertisement must not be misleading or misrepresent any services rendered to the public.

All advertised costs must be clearly stated and indicate the total amount to be paid by the customer. The print must be in the same font style and size as all other print in the advertisement, coupon, sign or promotional material.



Any disclaimer must be located directly adjacent to the fee to be paid by the customer and must be in the same size and style of font.

If your station is a 1G test only facility you must not advertise any services in conjunction with an emission test.

Remember that the Department will consider an advertisement to be deceptive if an ordinary and reasonable customer with no experience in emission control cannot understand the advertisement.

The Emission Lab personnel in your area will be reviewing all advertisements, signs, promotional material and coupons to ensure compliance with NAC 445B. 460 Sec C and NAC 445B. 471.

If you have any questions regarding your advertising please call your local Emission Lab:

Las Vegas: (702) 486-4981  
Reno: (775) 684-3580

Below are examples of correct and incorrect exhibit of prices.

#### SMOG CHECK

\$18.00 Total

ABC Smog Inc.

Motorhomes, heavy trucks slightly higher

Incorrect

#### SMOG CHECK

\$18.00 Total

ABC Smog Inc.

Motorhomes and vans  
\$23.00 Total

Correct

#### NEVADA SMOG CHECK

ABC Smog Inc.

\$16.95

Certificate \$5.00

Some vans & trucks slightly higher

Incorrect

#### NEVADA SMOG CHECK

ABC Smog Inc.

\$21.95 Total

Correct

### EMISSION INSPECTOR HANDBOOK

The new inspector handbook is now available on the DMV website. The handbook affords a complete study guide of the mandatory Inspector class that must be successfully completed prior to licensing. The instructor of the First Time Inspector Class uses the exact book in the lesson plan as a workbook and reference guide.

The handbook is provided to each individual attending an inspector class. It would be rewarding to a prospective student to take advantage of the information offered and get a head start on the rest of the class. The handbook is available for printing at:

<http://www.dmvnv.com/emission.htm>

### EMISSION TEST COMPARISON

Some stations have experienced a decrease in business and felt there may be a decline in emission testing. DMV pulled emission testing statistics and found that there is no decrease in emission testing. April showed a slight decline but overall, the first three months of the year showed increase in emission testing. Following are the statistics showing January through April of 2002 and 2003 for Washoe and Clark County.

#### *Clark County*

<u>Month</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Jan	71,565	79,425
Feb	69,862	71,803
Mar	78,565	82,796
Apr	77,288	76,593

#### *Washoe*

<u>Month</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Jan	19,322	21,580
Feb	19,494	19,803
Mar	21,864	22,359
Apr	21,443	21,178

### READINESS MONITOR

DMV recently received a very good question from an emission inspector that lives in Las Vegas. The inspector asked if any Nevada regulation or statute would be violated if he "asked" customers if the vehicle battery had recently been disconnected. And, if the battery had been recently disconnected, to suggest the vehicle be driven for one week before receiving an emissions test. This practice should help set any readiness monitors that may show "not ready".

After reviewing all OBDII implementation documents it has been determined that inspectors can advise their customers to drive the vehicle for one week before obtaining an emission test for their vehicle, if there is doubt the readiness monitors are not properly set. Simply driving a vehicle is the proper procedure

to first follow, should the readiness monitors not be set properly. Many states, primarily those with centralized programs follow this practice with no complications whatsoever, regarding the evaluation of test data.

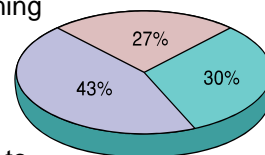
Based upon the data received during our past year following OBDII Advisory, DMV does not expect a high percentage of "not ready" vehicles. However, there will be some vehicles that will test as "not ready". A few vehicles models will even have to be driven by trained service technicians before the readiness monitors will set (occasionally even professionals have a hard time with this on a few vehicle models).

Please remember that we are here to assist with the upcoming implementation of OBDII Pass/Fail. In the event you need assistance, don't hesitate to call your nearest DMV emission office.

### TRAINING SURVEY

Over the past several years emission inspectors with the Nevada emission testing program have experienced many changes with regards to program training requirements. The most significant change involved the two tier licensing process (test only/test & repair) with continuous training required for those licensed as 2G test and repair emission inspectors.

The Department would like the industry to believe that the time they spend attending training mandated by the state has been worthwhile. The DMV Management Services and Programs Division staff involved with the emission inspection program would appreciate your ideas on what you think would be most beneficial for you with regards to training. We would like to know what training topics you would like to see covered by both the Department and individual training providers. We would appreciate your time to review and complete the attached questionnaire.



The completed survey can be faxed to our office at (775) 684-4563 or (702) 486-4986, attention emission control. You can also contact Lloyd Nelson by telephone at (775) 684-4682 or by e-mail at [lnelson@dmv.state.nv.us](mailto:lnelson@dmv.state.nv.us).

## **TRAINING SURVEY**

### **1G TRAINING**

For recertification classes, would you like to see more of:

- ☐ Emission regulations: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Emission testing requirements: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ New Technology: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **2G TRAINING**

For recertification classes, would you like to see more of:

- ☐ OBD II related topics: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Fuel injection systems
- ☐ Distributorless ignition systems
- ☐ Lab scopes/waveforms
- ☐ New Technology: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Would you be interested in attending meetings with DMV and other industry members to discuss the current training program once every six months?**

☐ YES

☐ NO

Please mail or fax to:

DMV - Emission Program  
555 Wright Way  
Carson City, NV 89711  
(775) 684-4563 or (702) 486-4986